

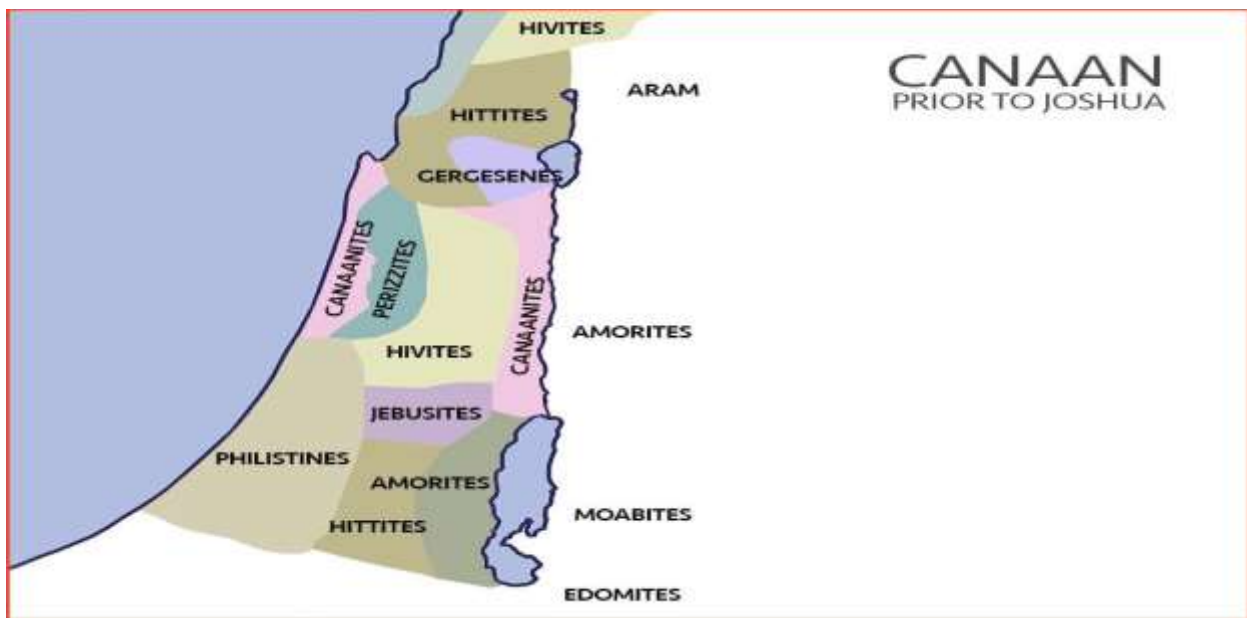
## Exodus 33

Verses 1-6

Then the Lord spoke to Moses, “Depart, go up from here, you and the people whom you have brought up from the land of Egypt, to the land of which I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, ‘To your descendants I will give it.’<sup>2</sup> I will send an angel before you and I will drive out the Canaanite, the Amorite, the Hittite, the Perizzite, the Hivite and the Jebusite.<sup>3</sup> *Go up* to a land flowing with milk and honey; for I will not go up in your midst, because you are an obstinate people, and I might destroy you on the way.”<sup>4</sup> When the people heard this sad word, they went into mourning, and none of them put on his ornaments.<sup>5</sup> For the Lord had said to Moses, “Say to the sons of Israel, ‘You are an obstinate people; should I go up in your midst for one moment, I would destroy you. Now therefore, put off your ornaments from you, that I may know what I shall do with you.’”<sup>6</sup> So the sons of Israel stripped themselves of their ornaments, from Mount Horeb onward.

I will send an angel before you and I will drive out The Canaanite, the Amorite, the Hittite, The Perizzite, the Hivite and the Jebusite

See Map 3305



**For I will not go up in your midst, because you are an obstinate people**

Actions have consequences.

Making a false god and worshipping it after all that God had done for them was over the line and God wanted them to know He was not pleased.

The people were unfit for His presence, so God withdraw himself and sent an Angel

**Put off your ornaments from you, that I may know what I shall do with you**

Moses and God had both punished Israel for their actions but this matter was not resolved at this point.

Verses 7-11

**<sup>7</sup> Now Moses used to take the tent and pitch it outside the camp, a good distance from the camp, and he called it the tent of meeting. And everyone who sought the Lord would go out to the tent of meeting which was outside the camp. <sup>8</sup> And it came about, whenever Moses went out to the tent, that all the people would arise and stand, each at the entrance of his tent, and gaze after Moses until he entered the tent. <sup>9</sup> Whenever Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would descend and stand at the entrance of the tent; and the Lord would speak with Moses. <sup>10</sup> When all the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance of the tent, all the people would arise and worship, each at the entrance of his tent. <sup>11</sup> Thus the Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, just as a man speaks to his friend. When Moses returned to the camp, his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, would not depart from the tent.**

**Now Moses used to take the tent and pitch it outside the camp, a good distance from the camp, and he called it the tent of meeting.**

Moses had his private dwelling, his home, in the midst of the people

But he had this other tent outside the camp that served as a meeting place with God

God would appear to Moses and talk with him face to face

Moses was privileged far above any other prophets of the Old Testament.

**And everyone who sought the Lord would go out to the tent of meeting which was outside the camp**

The people had alienated themselves from the Lord, but those who sought Him were given an opportunity to approach Him.

**Whenever Moses went out to the tent, all the people would arise and stand, each at the entrance of his tent, and gaze after Moses until he entered the tent**

With such a large group of people, the tent must have been on a high area so all the people could see Moses

**When all the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance of the tent, all the people would arise and worship, each at the entrance of his tent**

The cloud was a signal that God was talking with Moses and the people showed their reverence for the Lord's presence by worshipping Him.

**The Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, just as a man speaks to his friend.**

This tent of meeting remained even after the Tabernacle was completed

See Numbers 12:5 – 8

See pic3310

**Numbers time line**

Numbers	Event	Year 2 - 1445	Place
9	Passover	1-14-02	The Desert of Sinai
1:1	Census	2-1-02	The Desert of Sinai
10:11	At Sinai for almost 11 months	2-20-02	Leave Sinai
11	Quail / 70 Elders		Kibroth-hattaavah
12	Miriam and Aaron oppose Moses		Hazereth
12:16	Arrive at Kadesh-barnea	3-2-02	At Kadesh
13	Explore Canaan	40 days	At Kadesh
14	The people rebel	4th month	At Kadesh
14:44-45	Defeated by Amorites	4th month	Hill country

The Tabernacle was set up on 1-1-02 (1445)

Chapter 12:5-8 is close to 2 months after that point in time.

**When Moses returned to the camp, his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, would not depart from the tent**

Apparently the tent was not to be left unattended or God wanted Joshua to be set aside for training and wanted him to be there all the time.

This would make sense since he will replace Moses as the leader of Israel.

Verses 12-17

**<sup>12</sup> Then Moses said to the Lord, “See, You say to me, ‘Bring up this people!’ But You Yourself have not let me know whom You will send with me. Moreover, You have said, ‘I have known you by name, and you have also found favor in My sight.’ <sup>13</sup> Now therefore, I pray You, if I have found favor in Your sight, let me know Your ways that I may know You, so that I may find favor in Your sight. Consider too, that this nation is Your people.” <sup>14</sup> And He said, “My presence shall go *with you*, and I will give you rest.” <sup>15</sup> Then he said to Him, “If Your presence does not go *with us*, do not lead us up from here. <sup>16</sup> For how then can it be known that I have found favor in Your sight, I and Your people? Is it not by Your going with us, so that we, I and Your people, may be distinguished from all the *other* people who are upon the face of the earth?” <sup>17</sup> The Lord said to Moses, “I will also do this thing of which you have spoken; for you have found favor in My sight and I have known you by name.”**

Moses has 3 concerns that he brings before God.

- 1. But you have not let me know whom you will send with me**
- 2. Let me know Your ways that I may know You**
- 3. This nation is your people**

And what is God's answer to these 3 concerns?

**And He said, “My presence shall go *with you*, and I will give you rest.**

God's answer to Moses' three questions was short and simple

1. I will go with you
2. God talked with Moses on a regular basis teaching him who He was
3. I will give you rest. God was doing all the heavy lifting.

**If your presence does not go with us, do not lead us up from here**

God said He would be with Moses but He had not promised to be with Israel

So Moses says Israel cannot be the chosen nation if God doesn't show his favor for them before the other nations.

**The Lord said to Moses, I will also do this thing of which you have spoken**

The separation between God and Israel was finally over because Moses had this special relationship with God and he interceded for Israel.

Verses 18-23

**<sup>18</sup> Then Moses said, "I pray You, show me Your glory!" <sup>19</sup> And He said, "I Myself will make all My goodness pass before you, and will proclaim the name of the Lord before you; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show compassion on whom I will show compassion." <sup>20</sup> But He said, "You cannot see My face, for no man can see Me and live!" <sup>21</sup> Then the Lord said, "Behold, there is a place by Me, and you shall stand *there* on the rock; <sup>22</sup> and it will come about, while My glory is passing by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock and cover you with My hand until I have passed by. <sup>23</sup> Then I will take My hand away and you shall see My back, but My face shall not be seen."**

**But He said, "You cannot see my face, for no man can see me and live!"**

Paul says that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God.

Only after we have been given our new spiritual body will we be able to see God

See 1 Corinthians 15:50-54

**I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will show mercy on whom I will show mercy**

Calvinists have used this verse to “prove” that people are predestined when it comes to salvation. That long before anyone was created God had already determined who would be saved or lost.

By doing this they destroy free will. There is no choosing between right and wrong.

There is no sin or repentance. The Gospel message is destroyed.

God shows us grace and mercy that we might be saved.

We say might because people have to choose Christ as their Lord and Savior.

**While my glory is passing by, I will put you in the cleft of the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by**

Moses needed to be shielded from God’s Glory

**Then I will take my hand away and you shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen**

Man, while he is in the flesh, cannot look on God’s face.